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USHER, ROLAND G. *Pan-Americanism*. Pp. xix, 466. Price, \$2.00. New York: The Century Company, 1915.

This is in many respects an extraordinary book. Whether one agrees or disagrees with the conclusions reached, the array of facts and the way in which they are marshalled command attention and hold the interest of the reader from cover to cover. It is impossible even to attempt a summary of the wide range which the author's discussion of the subject has taken. The book is, in brief, as he himself designates it, "a forecast of the inevitable clash between the United States and Europe's victor."

Although Dr. Usher attempts to present the pros and cons of the different aspects of the question, it is evident that he is firmly convinced of the necessity of preparedness for the great conflict which he believes the future has in store for the United States. It is hardly necessary to present the argument in detail, as it is based on the same premises which have been impressed upon the American public time and again by ex-President Roosevelt, Senator Lodge and the writers who have followed their lead.

In his discussion of Pan-Americanism in its relation to American foreign policy, the author does not draw a very encouraging picture. In spite of many acute and accurate observations concerning the attitude of the people of Latin America toward the United States, one cannot help but feel the author's lack of first hand acquaintance with the situation. He attempts to generalize for all of Latin America on a great mass of topics which will not admit of generalization. Racial, economic, political and social conditions are so widely divergent in different parts of Latin America that the attempts at generalization contained in this book are at times misleading. To correct them, however, would require the writing of another book.

The great value of Dr. Usher's book is in its stimulus to serious thought and reflection on the foreign policy of the United States.

L. S. ROWE.

*University of Pennsylvania.*

#### *Notes*

FORD, HENRY JONES. *The Natural History of the State*. Pp. viii, 188. Price, \$1.00. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1915.

This volume, as its title implies, lies in the border zone between biology and political science, and attempts to apply the Darwinian theory, as modified by later critics, to the origin and development of the state. The general point of view is that the state, as the original form of organized society, precedes the existence of man as a rational human being, the distinctive traits that characterize man being the result of social life. Aristotle's dictum that "man is a political animal" is, therefore, strictly upheld, as is his account of the historical order of development. In support of this theory, data are drawn from biology, psychology, linguistics, and anthropology. The book supports a modified form of the organic theory of the state, and in its implications strongly opposes the individualistic attitude toward state functions and natural rights.

R. G. G.

PHELPS, EDITH M. (compiled by). *Selected Articles on Federal Control of Interstate Corporations* (2d and enlarged edition). Pp. xxx, 240. *Selected Articles on the Monroe Doctrine*. Pp. xxviii, 253. *Selected Articles on The Recall, including the Recall of Judges and Judicial Decisions* (2d edition, revised and enlarged). Pp. xlviii, 273. Price, \$1.00 each. White Plains, New York: The H. W. Wilson Company, 1915.

SHURTLEFF, FLAVEL and OLMSTED, FREDERICK LAW. *Carrying Out the City Plan*. Pp. ix, 349. Price, \$2.00. New York: Survey Associates, Inc., 1914.

This is a reliable, authoritative discussion of the methods actually employed and prescribed by law or legal custom in different parts of the United States in acquiring land for public purposes, in distributing the cost of public improvements, and in other proceedings essential to the proper shaping of our growing cities to the needs of their inhabitants. These matters are discussed under the captions, the public ownership of land, the acquisition of land, the distribution of the cost of land acquirement, excess condemnation, the use of the police power in the execution of a city plan, and the work of administrative agencies in the execution of a city plan. One hundred and twenty-five pages are taken up with the appendix, which gives legislation and decisions, and extracts from a report on English and Continental systems of taking land for public purposes. The volume is well indexed.

This volume will probably take first place among the medium-sized reference works, dealing with the legal phases of land acquisition by the public, city planning, billboards, building regulations, condemnation of land, excess condemnation, excess taking, special assessments, and heights of buildings. As indicative of the need for public ownership a table is cited (p. 15), showing that of 537 public sites, acquired by New York City from 1812 to 1900, 91 had increased in value less than 25 per cent up to 1908, whereas 96 had increased over 500 per cent, 196 from 101 to 501 per cent, and 154, 25 per cent to 101 per cent. The discussions on special assessments are particularly suggestive and valuable. The discussion of excess condemnation is one that will be informing to all students of municipal affairs.

C. L. K.

THOMPSON, C. MILDRED. *Reconstruction in Georgia*. Pp. 418. Price, \$3.00. New York: The Columbia University Press, 1915.

TOULMIN, HARRY AUBREY. *The City Manager*. Pp. xi, 310. Price, \$1.50. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1915.

This is a clear and interesting presentation of the actual plans for the city manager or commission manager form of government as it has been worked out in those cities where it has been adopted, particularly Dayton, Ohio; Staunton, Va.; Springfield, Ohio, and Hickory, N. C. Some proposed plans such as the Lockport proposal are also discussed.

It is probably the best presentation of this new type of city government that has yet been made. Mr. Toulmin is a resident of the city of Dayton and was instrumental in getting the city plan adopted there. He has availed him-

self of the opportunity to study at first hand both the regulations for and against the plan as well as the actual results that are being and can be secured through it. It is a practical, common-sense type of book.

C. L. K.

## INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS

### *Reviews*

ANGELL, NORMAN. *America and the New World State*. Pp. x, 305. Price, \$1.25. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1915.

Mr. Angell's chief purpose in this work is to urge the people of the United States to take the lead, at the close of the present war, in the establishment of a new policy of international relations, which shall have for its goal the formation of a Concert of Nations.

The plan is the familiar one of uniting the nations of the world into a society for mutual protection from aggression, the influence of all to be used against any one recalcitrant member. The author suggests that the decrees of such an international society be enforced not by military strength, but by organized non-intercourse with the offending country. The United States, when the war ends, will face the alternative of taking the leadership in the initiation of such a system, or of taking her place in another era of rivalry in increasing armaments.

As a presentation of the need for an international world state, the work is strong and clear. As a plea for American leadership in international organization, it offers no solution of the difficulties in the way of such a plan. The difficulty of enforcing an international boycott against a country, the fact that many nations would have little to fear from such a boycott, the likelihood of the nations breaking up into rival groups, the case of a nation attacking another with military force—all these problems are unanswered.

The purpose is rather to develop public opinion in favor of the plan by pointing out the futility of war. In this lies the value of the work. Every discussion of international peace leads to the conclusion that it will be secured only if all the peoples of the civilized world have come to regard war as useless, reprehensible, and intolerable, and have determined to end it.

W. LEWIS ABBOTT.

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SETON-WATSON, R. W.; WILSON, J. DOVER; ZIMMERN, ALFRED E. *The War and Democracy*. Pp. xiv, 390. Price, 80 cents. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1915.

This illuminating book is interesting for two reasons: first, because it presents the very one-sided British attitude toward the war, and second, because it is written for the purpose, avowed in the preface, of educating the citizenry of Britain in the causes and issues of the war.

The "nationality" theory of the organization of political states is discussed in the first chapter and defines with excellent clearness one of the issues for which Britain is fighting. It furnishes an interesting contrast to the theory of the eco-